

*"The boxing headquarters of the world is right here in Missouri. I grew up in Missouri. This is home to me. This is where Everlast is. I can sign my name to this, and I'm proud of that."*

--Ray Stewart, director of operations,  
Everlast Boxing, Moberly

*Wherever you are in the world...  
our offices are there to serve you*

# Discover MISSOURI

## Discover the U.S.' Best Location

- Population center of the U.S. – Central Time Zone, served by the nation's primary central artery, I-70, bordered by the U.S.' central river, the Mississippi

Missouri is within 500 miles of:

- 43 percent of U.S. population and households
- 41 percent of total U.S. effective buying power after taxes
- 40 percent of total U.S. personal income
- 39 percent of total U.S. resale trade
- 44 percent of total U.S. wholesale trade
- 41 percent of total U.S. service industries
- 44 percent of total U.S. manufacturing establishments

**MISSOURI**  
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE  
P.O. Box 118  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0118  
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(800)523-1434

Site Selection Web Tools Available at  
[www.missouridevelopment.org](http://www.missouridevelopment.org)

- ▶ Available buildings and sites
- ▶ Tax information
- ▶ Regional profiles
- ▶ Industry profiles
- ▶ Financial and incentive programs
- ▶ Research Toolbox
- ▶ Contacts

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*“The decision to locate our initial manufacturing operation in Missouri will prove beneficial on a variety of fronts ... Meridian Business Solutions will take advantage of this central U.S. location to improve logistics, receipt of raw materials, and distribution of product.”*

-- Gregg Hoffman, managing partner,  
Meridian Business Solutions

*(an EarthShell Corp. licensee, on moving to Springfield. EarthShell manufactures environmentally friendly food service packaging.)*

### Pro-Business Climate

- Broad workers' compensation reform legislation passed in 2005
- Broad tort reform legislation passed in 2005
- One of only seven states to enjoy a AAA bond rating
- New pro-business governor and legislature pushing to cut already low business costs, reduce regulatory hurdles and workers compensation premiums and reform medical malpractice insurance
- Ranked No. 11 by the Tax Foundation for business-friendly tax climate
- Approximately 20 venture capital firms operating in Missouri with nationwide capital over \$1.4 billion under management
- Tenth lowest average utility rates in nation; new coal- and gas-fired plants coming on-line will make Missouri a net energy exporter
- Ranked in top 10 by the *Pacific Research Institute* for overall business-friendly tax system

### Taxes

- 5.2 percent net effective corporate income tax – seventh lowest in U.S.
- 4.225 percent state sales/use tax rate -- lower than 35 other states
- Total exemption of manufacturer inventory from property tax
- Exemption of sales tax on manufacturing machinery, and other exemptions
- State tax deductible from federal tax

### Incentives

- Enhanced enterprise zones, offering state tax credits and local property tax abatement.
- Brownfield program provides tax credits to redevelop properties contaminated with hazardous waste.
- Rebuilding Communities tax credit program if locating, relocating or expanding in a distressed community
- Quality job training incentive programs available

### Infrastructure

- Ten interstate highways, including I-70, I-35, I-55, I-29 and I-44
- More than 5,000 miles of fiber optic cable
- Kansas City Smart Port, a direct Mexico-Kansas City NAFTA route: efficient, one-stop shipping to and from markets in Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, Far East
- More than 1,000 miles of waterway via Mississippi and Missouri Rivers, 14 ports
- More than 4,000 miles of railroad tracks that carry six class-one railroads. Kansas City and St. Louis home to nation's second and third largest rail terminals
- 114 publicly-owned general aviation facilities and 29 with runways over 5,000 ft.

### Workforce Talent

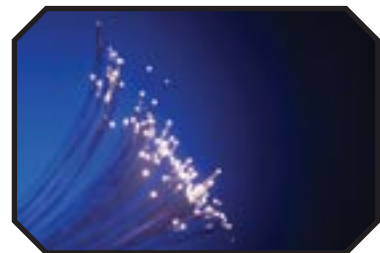
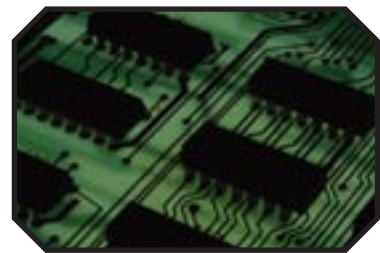
- No. 1 state for workers' quality of education and educational achievement – *Business Facilities*
- Highly educated – over 84 percent high school graduates
- 17 percent of all degrees in science and engineering
- 57 two and four year colleges/universities, 10 professional/technical schools, and 158 proprietary schools
- Washington University, St. Louis, medical school ranked No. 3 in nation; university itself tied for No. 11 in nation – *U.S. News & World Report*
- Truman State University, Kirksville, No. 1 for public university master's programs in Midwest – *U.S. News & World Report*
- 97 percent public schools wired for Internet access – 3.3 students per computer

### Quality of Life

- 6th lowest cost of living in U.S. Index (U.S. = 100): 91.1
- Statewide Mean travel time to work: 23.3 minutes
- Low total tax burden on personal income
- Gas and fuel prices consistently below national average
- Missouri Purchasing Managers' Index *consistently* above national average
- Percentage of zip codes with broadband providers: 81%
- 48th lowest business tax burden per worker among 50 states
- Average low temperature, winter: 25° F
- Average high temperature, summer: 78° F
- Topographically diverse area supporting a broad range of industries in rural and urban centers
- Broad range of cultural and entertainment activities

*“Missouri has both great academic institutions and vibrant companies especially in the area of life sciences. The state is very supportive and the midwest has a strong work ethic, so it is the ideal headquarters for a \$1.2 billion life science and high technology company.”*

-- David R. Harvey, CEO  
*Sigma-Aldrich Corporation, St. Louis*



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